

2027 Carnegie Elective Classification for Sustainability

Application Deep Dive: Sections IV, V, and VI (A) for Non-Community Colleges

Academic Integration, Research & Innovation, and Workforce Development & Career Preparation

July 28, 2026



Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Section IV. Academic Integration of Sustainability
- Section V. Research and Innovation for Sustainability and Climate Solutions
- Section VI. (A) Workforce Development and Career Preparation
- Q&A
- Next Steps



Housekeeping

- Attendee microphones are muted to limit disruption
- Use chat to introduce yourself
- Use Q&A to ask and upvote questions
- Participate in the polls
- Recording and slides will be sent to everyone who registered
- Thanks for being here!



Introductions



Tom Wood
Tenured Associate Professor
George Mason University



Andrea Romero
Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs
University of Arizona



Amy Halvorson
Director for Sustainability
University of Colorado Boulder



Hallie Nelson Garcia
Program Manager for Sustainability
University of Colorado Boulder

2027 Carnegie Elective Classification for Sustainability Application Timeline



MARCH 9, 2026
Applications become
available online



AUGUST 14, 2026
Deadline to register
and submit payment



DECEMBER 18, 2026
Online application
deadline



MAY 2027
Notifications to
institutions of their
classification status



JUNE 2027
Public announcement
of 2027 Carnegie
Elective Classification
for Sustainability

2027 Carnegie Sustainability Application Framework



Context Definition Ecosystem Model

- I. Campus Information
- II. Institutional Context and Definition
- III. Ecosystem Model for Collaborative Community Partnerships

Academics Research & Innovation Workforce Development & Career Preparation

- IV. Academic Integration of Sustainability
- V. Research & Innovation for Sustainability and Climate Solutions (Non-Community Colleges)
- VI. Workforce Development and Career Preparation
 - A. For Non-Community Colleges
 - B. For Community Colleges

Climate Action Plan Campus Infrastructure Resilience & Adaptation Reflection

- VII. Climate Action Plan
- VIII. Campus Infrastructure for Sustainability
- IX. Resilience and Adaptation
- X. Reflection and Additional Information

Data should
reflect AYs
2022-2023,
2023-2024,
2024-2025

Poll #1

Where are you in your application journey?



Section IV. Academic Integration of Sustainability

Sustainability-Focused: Courses where the substantive course content and primary course-level learning outcomes are directly related to (beyond simply supporting) the elements in the definition of sustainability, described in Section II: Institutional Context.

Sustainability-Inclusive: Courses where one or more course-level learning outcomes directly support one or more elements in the definition of sustainability, described in Section II: Institutional Context.





Section IV. Academic Integration of Sustainability

Questions:

1. Describe how sustainability is **integrated** into traditional curricular structures
2. Describe 3-10 **academic programs** that explicitly incorporate sustainability (career exploration, co-op, courses, internships, student research, study abroad, etc.)
3. Describe 3-5 co-curricular programs, events or clubs that promote sustainability **outside the classroom** (Earth Week programming, food recovery programs, bike-to-campus days, move out events)
4. Identify 3-5 opportunities for sustainability–focused **student leadership** (club leaders, environmental affairs student government representative, campus garden coordinators)

Section IV. 1b - Optional Table

Academic Year (Select one)	• AY 2022-2023 • AY 2023-2024 • AY 2024-2025	
Number of for-credit <u>sustainability-focused</u> courses	# Undergraduate Courses	# Graduate Courses (if applicable)
Percentage of <u>sustainability-focused</u> courses as part of all for-credit courses	% of Undergraduate Courses	% of Graduate Courses (if applicable)
Percentage of academic departments offering for-credit <u>sustainability-focused</u> courses as part of all departments	% of Academic Departments Serving Undergraduates	% of Academic Departments Serving Graduates (if applicable)
Number of students enrolled in for-credit <u>sustainability-focused</u> courses	# Undergraduate Students	# Graduate Students (if applicable)
Number of for-credit <u>sustainability-inclusive</u> tagged courses	# Undergraduate Courses	# Graduate Courses (if applicable)
Percentage of <u>sustainability-inclusive</u> courses as part of all for-credit courses	% of Undergraduate Courses	% of Graduate Courses (if applicable)
Percentage of academic departments offering for-credit <u>sustainability-inclusive</u> courses as part of all departments	% of Academic Departments Serving Undergraduates	% of Academic Departments Serving Graduates (if applicable)
Number of students enrolled in for-credit <u>sustainability-inclusive</u> courses	# Undergraduate Students	# Graduate Students (if applicable)
Does your institution have a sustainability course designation? If so, describe its development, including the criteria used, the review and approval process, and where the designation is displayed (e.g., course catalog, class schedule, or degree audit system). If not, describe the methods your institution used to collect this data. (250-word limit)		

Poll #2

Which aspect of Section IV on Academic Integration do you anticipate will be most challenging?



Section V. Research and Innovation for Sustainability and Climate Solutions

Questions:

1. Describe the institution's **research priorities** and long-term vision
2. Describe how **students engage** in sustainability-focused research
3. Describe up to 10 research **projects or initiatives** (in areas like clean water and sanitation, disaster mitigation, climate adaptation, public health and wellbeing)
4. Describe how you ensure **research practices** are co-designed with communities, and are ethically responsible, mutually beneficial, and socially equitable
5. Describe **innovations** in sustainable technologies or practices emerging from campus research (climate data tools, climate-resilient agricultural practices)



Poll #3

How would you describe your institution's sustainability-related research?



Discussion: Academic Integration & Research

- How did you determine where to place examples that could fall into multiple categories (academic, research, co-curricular)?
- How did you determine how many examples to share?
- What campus departments or individuals were most helpful in gathering information for these sections?
- What advice would you give institutions about selecting supporting files or links? What makes a supporting document truly add value rather than repeat what's already in the narrative?



Section VI (A). Workforce Development and Career Preparation

Questions:

1. Describe how students and alumni **connect with employers** around sustainability-related careers
2. Identify 3-10 **experiential learning** opportunities that explicitly prepare students for careers that address real-world sustainability challenges (paid internships, job fair, service-learning, skills-based workshops)
3. Provide **metrics** used to evaluate the effectiveness of sustainability projects related to workforce development (number of partners, job placement rates, student participation rates, employer satisfaction)



Discussion: Workforce Development and Career Preparation

- What kinds of metrics or evidence were easiest to collect, and which were the most difficult?
- How did you demonstrate the impact of these career preparation opportunities beyond simply listing them?



Q&A



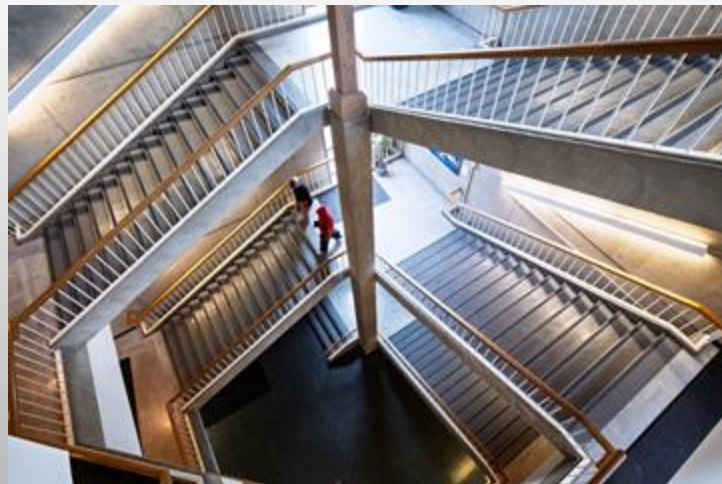
Poll #4

What is your biggest takeaway from today's webinar?



Staying Connected and Building Capacity

- Download the [application & guidebook](#) from our site
- Sign up for our [mailing list](#)
- Register for upcoming [webinars](#)
 - August 12 – Climate Action Plan, Resilience & Adaptation
 - September 16 – Narrative as Data
- Check out our [Resources](#) page, includes crosswalks and [office hours](#)





www.colorado.edu/sustainability/carnegie-elective-classification-sustainability

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